UNITED
NATIONS

E

Economic and Social
Council

Distr.
GENERAL

E/ECE/1274
22 March 1993

Original: ENGLISH

ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR EUROPE

Forty-eighth session
(Provisional Agenda item 5(a))

THE PROVISION OF ADEQUATE RESOURCES FOR THE SERVICING OF THE PRIORITY SECTORS OF THE ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR EUROPE

1. This note has been prepared pursuant to paragraph 6 of decision B (47). In accordance with the same paragraph the decision was transmitted to the Secretary-General of the United Nations on 16 April 1992. Copies of the decision were sent to the Under-Secretary-General for Administration and Management and to other senior officers of the Department.

2. Since the adoption of decision B (47) the following three ECE posts in the Professional category have been filled as exceptions to the temporary suspension of recruitment introduced by the Secretary General on 6 February 1992:

Director, Statistical Division (D-1)
Chief, Trade Facilitation Section, Trade Division (P-5)
Economic Affairs Officer, Trade Facilitation Section (P-4)

3. The following four posts at the P-2 level have been filled by succesful candidates from competitive examinations held before the introduction of the recruitment freeze:

Associate Statistician, Statistical Division (P-2)
Editor, Environment and Human Settlements Division (P-2)
Associate Programmer, Trade Facilitation Section, Trade Division (P-2)
Editor, Industry and Technology Division (P-2)

4. The following three posts have been filled through lateral transfers of staff from other UN programmes:

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Statistician, Statistical Division (P-3)
Associate Statistician, Statistical Division (P-2)
Associate Economic Affairs Officer, Division for Economic Analysis and Projections (P-2)

5. On 21 October 1992 the Under-Secretary-General for Administration and Management announced a new policy for the treatment of vacant Professional posts. This entails the central review by Headquarters of all vacant posts in order to determine their most efficient use. Each programme manager is required to provide substantive justification for the maintenance of vacant posts where they are budgeted. The absence of adequate justification could result in the redeployment of the post to other programmes or a continuing freeze of the vacancy.

6. On 12 November 1992 the ECE submitted a list of current vacancies for central review. On 24 December 1992 the Department for Administration and Management notified the ECE that all its recommendations to retain current vacancies in their respective functions had been approved.

7. On 21 December 1992 the ECE submitted the list of current and foreseen vacancies in 1993 including a number of senior posts which, if left vacant, would jeopardize both the substantive work and the management of the ECE. To date no reply has been received.

8. The list of current and foreseen ECE vacancies in both priority and non-priority areas is outlined in the Annex, which contains an updating of information presented to the Ad Hoc Informal Meeting on 25 January 1993.

9. The list of vacancies in the Annex does not include a number of posts earmarked for the 1992 promotion exercise. A total of 13 professional staff of the ECE have been recommended for the 1992 Promotion Review. The cases have been reviewed by the Appointment and Promotion Board at Headquarters in March. While several promotions would be accommodated against vacant posts, others would only be possible if staff at the higher grade were promoted. The 1992 Promotion Review is expected to create a number of vacancies at the lower professional levels (P-2 and P-3). The exact number and location of these vacancies will only be known when the promotion registers are issued by the Secretary-General later in the year.

ANNEX

ECE VACANT POSTS
Situation on 17 March 1993

No.	Div.	Level	Post identity Functional title	Central review	Recruitment status
1.	**CURRENT VACANCIES**				
	A.				
1	OES	D-2	Deputy Executive Secretary	sub 12/11/92 ok 24/12/92	Candidates evaluated Decision pending at HQ
	B. PRIORITY AREAS				
2	ENHS	P-4	Environmental Affairs Officer (Air pollution monitoring)	sub 12/11/92 ok 24/12/92	List of candidates submitted to ECE on 9/3/93. Interviews underway
3		P-3	Environmental Affairs Officer (Industrial accidents)	sub 12/11/92 ok 24/12/92	ECE recommended selected candidate on 3/11/92
4		P-2	Economic Affairs Officer (Environmental impact assessment)	sub 12/11/92 ok 24/12/92	Awaiting Roster candidates from national competitive examinations
5	TRAN	P-3	Economic Affairs Officer (Dangerous goods)	sub 12/11/92 ok 24/12/92	ECE recommended selected candidate on 30/10/92
6		P-3	Economic Affairs Officer (Transport statistics and analyses)	sub 12/11/92 ok 24/12/92	Awaiting more Roster candidates from national competitive examinations
7	STAT	P-3	Statistician (SNA & related fields)	sub 12/11/92 ok 24/12/92	Awaiting Roster candidates from national competitive examination
8		P-2	Statistician (Environment)	sub 12/11/92 ok 24/12/92	Awaiting Roster candidates from national competitive examination
9	DEAP	P-5	Senior Economic Affairs Officer (Transition economies)	sub 12/11/92 ok 24/12/92	ECE recommended selected candidate on 18/2/93

No.	Div.	Level	Post identity Functional title	Central review	Recruitment status
	C. NON-PRIORITY AREAS				
10	OES	P-3	Programme and Evaluation Officer	sub 12/11/92 ok 24/12/92	Post to be filled through internal competitive examination or transfer
11	I/T	P-4	Economic Affairs Officer (Chemical Section)	sub 12/11/92 ok 24/12/92	ECE recommended selected candidate on 30/10/92
12	ENHS	P-5	Chief, Human Settlements Section	sub 16/11/92	Post became vacant on 27/1/93. Pending central review, ECE recommended internal transfer on 18/11/92 (see 14 below)
2.	**FORTHCOMING VACANCIES**				
	A. PRIORITY AREAS				
13	ENHS	P-3	Environmental Affairs Officer		Post to be advertised
14	TRAN	P-5	Senior Economic Affairs Officer (Technology)	sub 21/12/92	Will become vacant if internal transfer authorized (see 12 above)
15		P-4	Economic Affairs Officer (Facilitation)		Post to be advertised
16		P-3	Economic Affairs Officer (Technology)		Post will become vacant upon retirement (31/5/93)
17	TRADE	D-1	Director	sub 21/12/92	Post will become vacant upon retirement (31/7/93)
18	DEAP	P-4	Economic Affairs Officer (Trade analysis)	sub 17/3/93	Post will become vacant upon retirement (31/3/93)
	B. NON-PRIORITY AREAS				
19	OES	P-4	Chief, Administrative and Conference Services	sub 21/12/92	Post will become vacant upon retirement (31/5/93)
20	ENERGY	D-1	Director	sub 21/12/92	Post will become vacant upon retirement (31/8/93)
21		P-5	Senior Economic Affairs Officer	sub 21/12/92	Post will become vacant upon retirement (30/6/93)
22	I/T	P-5	Chief of Section (Technology)	sub 21/12/92	Post will become vacant upon retire-ment (31/10/93)